

Coast Protection Board Meeting

FEBRUARY 2025

Key outcomes

The Coast Protection Board (the Board) held Meeting 513 on 14 February 2025 at the Department for Environment and Water (DEW), 81-95 Waymouth Street, Adelaide. The approved minutes will be released on the Board's website following its next meeting 28 March 2025.

Key outcomes from the Meeting 513 included:

- **Appointment of Mr Paul Caica as Presiding Member of the Board:** The Board warmly welcomed its new Presiding Member, Mr Paul Caica. He introduced himself, noting his distinguished career, including serving as a Minister for Environment, Conservation, River Murray, and Water during the Rann and Weatherill governments. He represented the Colton electorate and, since stepping down from Parliament, has remained active in community and business ventures.
- **Update on the board policy and strategic planning:** The Board has been reviewing its policy and strategic priorities through workshops led by external expert Ms Stephanie Hensgen, with DEW staff. This process was paused until the new Presiding Member was appointed. Another workshop with Ms. Hensgen is scheduled for 21 March 2025.
- **Presentation from the survey team:** The Board heard a presentation from Ms Kia Ly, Hydrographic Survey Coordinator at DEW's Coast Unit, on the coastal survey monitoring program. The program tracks coastal changes due to climate change, storms, and human activity, aiming to provide insights into coastal dynamics through continuous monitoring. This includes aerial imagery, onsite inspections, vegetation and seagrass assessments, and sea level rise trends. It also offers guidance on safe navigation for West Beach and Glenelg harbours and evaluates sand management impacts.
- **Submission on the Biodiversity Bill 2025:** The Board reviewed a draft letter to the DEW Biodiversity Coordination Unit as part of the consultation for the proposed Bill. The Board acknowledges that the Biodiversity Bill 2025 aligns with its policy to protect and maintain coastal biodiversity. The Board supports the proposed amendment to the *Coast Protection Act 1972*, which requires the Board to consider and promote the objectives of the proposed new Biodiversity Act 2025 in its actions.